

• Abroad •

London, England. British journalist C. H. Rolph is visiting the western United States. From this latest dispatch to *New Statesman*: "The zeal of the Un-American Activities Committee, which I had believed to have died down lately, seems on the contrary to go on unabated. . . . There are many men here who, having been called to give evidence before the Committee, are ruined—whether they then declared that they once were Communists, or that they were never Communists—or whether they invoked the Fifth Amendment and refused to say anything either way. They simply cannot get employment—or, if they had their own businesses, they find themselves ostracized by their former clients and customers. If they are lucky enough to get away, many of them go to Australia: I am astonished at the number of men talking earnestly about the advantages of living in Australia 'under a democratic regime.' In San Francisco my taxi driver said: 'This is a dying country, sir. It's ruined. Yes, sir, and when I've made a little more I'm going to Australia' It is not difficult to find men whose lives have been darkened by this committee's work—they must already run into hundreds of thousands."

Moscow, USSR. Moscow's elite, both foreign and native, is plunged into sorrow at the arrest of the manager and two assistant managers of the Aragvi restaurant. The Aragvi spreads through a number of large, marble-lined cellar rooms on Gorky Street. In them the well-heeled may forget the dreariness of so much of Russia in the sound of Caucasian orchestras, the Cossack teams of singers and dancers, and delicious special foods that won a gold medal at last summer's Brussels Fair. In spite of very stiff prices, the Aragvi is always jammed. But, alas, the special police squad for "conducting the fight against the looting of Socialist property" has discovered that you could not be sure of getting a table unless you slipped the manager—Comrade Stazhadze—or one of his assistants a few ruble notes; and even then the waiters were not terribly polite unless they figured you could be counted on for a few rubles more during the evening.

Douglas, Isle of Man. Frank Cousins, general secretary of the gigantic Transport and General Workers' Union, is generally considered the rising star in the British labor movement, which controls the British Labor Party. Under his guidance, the recent convention of his union spent most of its sessions on the problem of nuclear disarmament, and adopted resolutions demanding immediate, unilateral renunciation of testing, production or use of nuclear weapons by Britain as well as liquidation of all British missile bases.

Jakarta, Indonesia. Two years ago Sukarno declared that he would bend the Dutch to his will "by hitting their Achilles tendon: their economic interests." When they declined to yield West New Guinea, Sukarno expropriated the Dutch-owned enterprises and launched a ter-

rorist anti-Dutch campaign that drove out all but a handful of the Dutch engineers, planters, administrators and technicians. Today, the Dutch economy has recovered from this heavy blow. The guilder is a strong and free currency. The Netherlands is prosperous. On his side today, Sukarno establishes a fuzzy dictatorship as the Indonesian economy staggers at the edge of total bankruptcy. The rupiah, officially valued at $11\frac{1}{2}$ to the dollar, flutters between 150 and 190 to the dollar. Indonesian exports were down 30 per cent in 1958, much more than that in quality. Internal prices rose 80 per cent. Imports have had to be cut so sharply that many factories are shut from lack of raw materials. The daily wage of a city worker is less than the cost of a quart of rice. Even the Sukarno-backing paper, *Berita Indonesia*, remarks: "The sufferings of the people have become unbearable."



Carrefour

A SOLUTION

" . . . Now, suppose we cut West Germany in two. Then Adenauer could occupy the north and Erhard the south."

London, England. The Labor Party's left wing has added to its agitation for unilateral abandonment of nuclear weapons a campaign in favor of the Algerian rebels. It has sponsored the opening of a London office of FLN, the leading political organization of the rebels and terrorists. A "Parliamentary Committee for Algeria" has been formed under the chairmanship of Labor Party member Anthony Wedgwood.

Geneva, Switzerland. The Anglo-American-Soviet conference on a nuclear test ban nears the end of its first year. The united persistence of the delegates has puzzled many observers. Each participant (including the Russian) has come through at critical moments with enough genuine concessions to keep the talks from breaking down. The explanation seems to be that the central issue of the conference is something quite different from its public agenda. *All three powers are agreed in seeking, below the surface, a formula that would block the enlargement of "the nuclear club."* France, nearly ready to test her first nuclear bomb, is knocking at the gate. De Gaulle has rejected the secret overtures of the three Geneva powers. He refuses to accept a status in the non-nuclear ghetto. This French nuclear intransigence is the principal factor behind the trouble between France and the NATO command. It provoked General Norstad's transfer of all his bomb-carrying planes—and his atomic bombs—from French soil. The British government has the same voice in the use of nuclear bombs that the French demanded. But Britain is a club member in good standing.

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